

## HOLSINGERISMS.

H. R. H.

I read with sadness the announcement of the death of sister Ella Oakes, whom I always loved in the Lord. Two worthy young sisters of my acquaintance, have been called away this year, and both good organists; first sister Cora Brallier, of Berlin, Pa., and now sister Oakes. The proverb has it: "The young may die, the old must;" it might as well be: "The young and old must die," for the same issue of the EVANGELIST announces the death of two *young* sisters (Oakes and Rensch) and one *aged* sister. We also learn through private sources, of the death of brother Wm. N. Trent, of the Somerset, Pa., church; a very dear friend of ours. His death will be a heavy loss to the church, and O, how he will be missed in the family. Thank God, all the members of the family know to whom to go for comfort. Mr. W. H. Hartman, editor of the Waterloo, Iowa *Courier*, has also gone to his eternal home. He did our press work on the EVANGELIST, while we published it at Waterloo, and we received many fraternal courtesies from him while we were neighbors. He was a highly respected citizen. Brother A. J. Carmer, of Auburn, Ind., is numbered with the dead. He was a great sufferer for many years, and no doubt was glad when his change came. Who will be next? Who?

I am informed that brother J. M. Bowman, of Roann, Ind., now pastor of the church at Glenford, Ohio, has been selected by the committee, as the preacher for the coming California camp meeting. The selection is a good one, and I hope Brother Bowman's mission to California may be successful as well as pleasant. I may not be able to attend this year as it will come right in the midst of fruit harvest in this valley.

The editor's argument in a "Friendly Criticism," no doubt appears very reasonable and logical to himself, as it may to others; but everything is not as it *seems* to be. "He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbor cometh and searcheth him." Prov. 18:17. It is a source of consolation that hereafter "*truth only*" is to be taught in the EVANGELIST. However, the young editor must not be surprised if somebody will venture to inform him privately that something which he published and "claimed" to be truth, was not truth, for Pilate's great question: "What is truth?" is still a question with many seemingly good people, a few of them in the Brethren church. I'm afraid Brother Gnagey, in his zeal for his cause, went a little too far in his interpretation of Brother Cassel's free rostrum,

or any other of its advocates. Is there not a difference between "Free Silver" as the measure is advocated by its friends, and "Free and unlimited Coinage," as it is defined by its opponents? So I can see a difference between a free rostrum for the Brethren and a free rostrum for the world. The free rostrum may not have been an "excellent thing" for the "German Baptist church," but it was a *good* thing for the Brethren church; in fact *the very life of it*. And if we have the truth, (and I affirm we have,) then the free rostrum has brought forth the *truth*, even if it was as *sweet coming out of bitterness*. But perhaps it would be better for the Brethren not to have any discussions through the EVANGELIST. Let us try it, and only just reason with each other upon matters which we do not at first see alike. And above all, brethren, suppose we let "dead issues" severely alone, and "avoid foolish and unlearned questions, knowing that they do gender strifes." Mark the language: *We know they do*.

One of the former articles which was evidently lost through the mails, was headed "Scraps," and consisted of selections interspersed with remarks. I will try it again sometime, but *those* scraps are gone. They were very good.

We are now in the midst of the apricot harvest. The crop is light. The cherries and early peaches are over. After the apricots will come the regular peach crop, then plumes.

We have had some warm weather this summer, but nothing unusual. In fact there is nothing to complain of the weather in California. If it does not suit you at one place, all you have to do is to go somewhere else. We have all kinds of weather in this state. That is the reason there are so many yarns told about California. One man goes into the mountains and declares he saw snow fourteen feet deep in California. Another was raised in the state and he never saw snow. One young lady raised in the Golden state never heard it thunder, another never was in a greater thunder storm than in California. One says it never rains, the other declares it rains all the time, and both tell the truth, (limited) but one speaks from the southern extreme and the other from the northern end of the state, and the two are about a thousand miles apart. There is land that will bring 20 per cent. on the investment at \$1000 per acre, and there is others of which the more you take the poorer you get. Of California "Charity believeth all things," but Prudence maketh a little allowance. What I tell the readers of the EVANGELIST, shall be the truth, but may not always be the "whole truth," as that is hard to tell some-

times, about things in this country. It is a fact that since we have been living in our little cottage, during the months of May, June and July, not one night has been too warm to sleep comfortably with several covers over us. It is a fact that 100 degrees here is not as oppressively warm as 85 degrees in the eastern states. I have never known of a case of sunstroke in California. There are places, however, where it is too warm to be comfortable in the summer, and others where it is too cold in winter. There are but few if any better places in the state than the Santa Clara Valley. I prefer the climate of Southern California. Persons with \$5000 to \$10,000 capital can get more comfort from their means in California than can be enjoyed from the same amount in the states. That is my opinion; but I never had so much money and don't know what I would do with it if I had.

I have heard lately that Brother Beer has not been well for some time, and I fear it is true, for he has not been heard from for several months through the paper. Will hope for the better.

Berryessa, Calif., July 15.

## FUNERAL SERMON.

[Synopsis of sermon delivered at the funeral of W. H. Herrington, at Lanark, Ill., July 24, 1895, by J. O. Talley.]

Text:—II Cor. 4:18; 5:1. "For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we *know* that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

Precious knowledge that comes by faith. It sees where eyes would be dazed by the light. It hears where ears would be overwhelmed with the transpiring melody of joy. "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept *this* faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

How great has been the battle, only he who has gone before us can have known. How sore has been the trials, how piercing has been the pain, and how deep has been the sorrow, at thought of breaking the brittle cord. Only He who bore our sickness, and felt our grief, and tasted death for every man, can ever know. Only Jesus knows how great has been the conquest, and how bright will be the "diadem" that shall crown the brow of the faithful children of God.

Everything within the scope of the natural mission of man, comes,—whence we know not but only to waste away and disappear where, we know not—beyond that veil, eye hath not seen, ear hath not